

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 2, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 2 and ends on line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to a method for maintaining a production installation[[,]] ~~as defined in the preamble of claim 1~~ having a plurality of field devices connected partly or entirely over a data bus with a control system.

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 4, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 4 and which ends line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the technology of automation and process control, field devices are often used for determining a process variable in a process flow. Field devices for determining flow rate, fill level, differential pressure, temperature, etc. are generally known. They serve for registering the corresponding process variables: mass or volume flow rate, fill level, pressure, temperature, etc. The field devices produce signals, which act as measures for the registered process variables. As a rule, the field devices are, in part, or in total ~~all~~, connected with a control room or control system. The measurement signals are forwarded to the control room or control system. Normally, the entire process control is done at the control room or control system, where the various measurement signals of the different field devices are evaluated and, on the basis of the evaluation, control

signals are produced for other field devices (actuators), e.g. valves, which then control the course of the process.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 20 and ends on line 29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Signal transfer between the field device and the control room, or control system, occurs e.g. over current loops or a data bus, using known standards (Profibus, Foundation Fieldbus, CAN-Bus). The field devices are part of a production installation, whose management is very complex. Information concerning the production installation, or the components, or the field devices, begins to accumulate starting with the first day of planning. This information concerns essentially design, layout, procurement, installing, startup, operation and maintenance, i.e. the whole life cycle.

On page 2, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 15, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 10, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 4, line 10 and ends on line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention will now be described in greater detail on the basis of an example of an embodiment presented in the drawing, the figure of which shows as follows:

Fig. 1 is a production installation having a plurality of field devices, a manufacturer database and a customer database.

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On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 15, please insert the following:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS